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**NL INDUSTRIES/TARACORP SUPERFUND SITE GROUP
LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.**

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July 5, 2000

Telecopy and First Class Mail

Mr. Brad Bradley
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

**RE: NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site; Granite City, Illinois
Consent Decree
Voluntary Progress Report 14 (June 2000)**

Dear Mr. Bradley:

As requested by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), two copies of this letter are submitted on behalf of the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group ("Group") on a voluntary basis to provide EPA with a progress report for activities related to the remediation of the residential lots and remote fill areas, the remediation of the Taracorp pile, and the remedial design for groundwater that were performed in regard to the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site (the "site") during June 2000.

1. Actions Taken During Previous Month to Comply with the Consent Decree:

- During June 2000, the Group's supervising contractor, ENTACT, Inc. ("ENTACT"), continued to perform remedial activities. Tasks performed by ENTACT in June 2000 included overseeding of the Taracorp pile, miscellaneous restoration activities at residential lots, and completion of street sweeping activities. After these activities had been completed, ENTACT completed the demobilization of equipment and personnel from the site. Through June 2000, ENTACT has completed remedial activities at 769 residential lots and 32 remote fill lots.
- During June 2000, ARCADIS Geraghty & Miller ("ARCADIS") continued field activities associated with the pre-design investigation for groundwater.
- On June 5, 2000, a progress meeting was held to discuss the status of the remediation of residential lots, remote fill areas, and the Taracorp pile. Attendees at the meeting included representatives of EPA, ENTACT, and the Group's Technical Committee. ENTACT issued a report to project participants on June 6, 2000 to document the results of the meeting.



- On June 5, 2000, the Group's project coordinator issued a letter to EPA to provide a copy of ARCADIS' May 24, 2000 letter to Mr. Ron Parente, Granite City Wastewater Treatment Plant, which requested authorization to discharge groundwater from monitoring wells into the Granite City sewer system. Granite City personnel orally approved the request to discharge the groundwater on June 5, 2000.
- On June 6, 2000, the Group's project coordinator issued a voluntary progress report to EPA.
- On June 16, 2000, ARCADIS' subcontractor, Philip Environmental Services Corporation, discharged groundwater from monitoring wells into the sanitary sewer system pursuant to the approval from the Granite City Wastewater Treatment Plant. The storage tank that had been used to store the groundwater was removed from the site on June 21, 2000.
- On June 19, 2000, the Group's project coordinator issued a letter to EPA to provide a copy of the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant's June 5, 2000 letter which authorized the discharge of groundwater collected from monitoring wells at the site into the sanitary sewer system.
- On June 29, 2000, the Group's project coordinator provided a letter to EPA to document the additional efforts that ARCADIS personnel have performed as part of attempts to obtain approval for installation of a monitoring well which EPA requested to be installed in an off-site area located to the northwest of the industrial site. As noted in the letter, ARCADIS personnel visited the site, examined the approximate area for monitoring well installation, and met with utility companies to identify the locations of a high-pressure gas line, a sewer, and overhead utilities. During discussions with Granite City personnel, ARCADIS representatives were advised that approval for installation of the monitoring well would be needed from City Council and that the next City Council meeting was not scheduled to be held until July 18, 2000.
- On June 30, 2000, the Group's project coordinator issued a letter to EPA to provide a tabulated summary of the data from laboratory analysis of groundwater samples collected at the site during the first and second rounds of predesign field investigation sampling performed in March and April 2000. The data provided on the spreadsheets did not include the results of groundwater sampling from newly installed monitoring wells on National Steel Corporation/Granite City Steel Division and Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis' properties which were not yet available from the laboratory.

- During June 2000, ARCADIS and Group representatives continued efforts to secure access to off-site properties for installation and sampling of a groundwater monitoring well at the additional location requested by EPA. The status of efforts to obtain access was discussed with EPA's remedial project manager and documented in a letter issued to EPA on June 29, 2000.
- During June 2000, ENTACT continued efforts to prepare final reports to summarize the results of remedial activities performed at the site.

2. Summary of Data and/or Results of Sampling and Tests Received:

- As noted above, a tabulated summary of groundwater data from the first and second rounds of sampling performed during the predesign field investigation were provided to EPA on July 30, 2000.

3. Work Plans, Plans, and Other Deliverables Completed and Submitted to EPA During the Previous Month:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

4. Actions, Data Collection, and Implementation of Work Plans and Other Information Related to the Progress of Construction which are Scheduled to be Performed During the Next Six-Week Period:

- ENTACT will continue efforts to prepare final reports to summarize the remedial activities which were performed at the site.
- ARCADIS personnel will continue to perform predesign investigation activities for groundwater. Installation and sampling of an additional groundwater monitoring well will be completed after the property owner has granted access. Laboratory data from groundwater sampling performed on National Steel Corporation/Granite City Steel Division and Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis' properties will be received, provided to EPA, and validated. The Group's Technical Committee anticipates that a meeting will be held with EPA at a later date to discuss the data. EPA will be advised of the Group's continuing efforts.
- ARCADIS personnel will continue efforts to revise the Predesign Investigation Work Plan for Groundwater to address EPA's comments. Finalization of the Predesign Investigation Work Plan has been delayed pending resolution of access issues associated with the proposed monitoring well installations and confirmation of final locations for the new wells.

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5. Problems Encountered, Anticipated Problems, Actual or Anticipated Delays, and Efforts Developed or Implemented to Mitigate Delays:

- As documented in previous correspondence to EPA, the Group and ARCADIS personnel have encountered difficulties in securing access to properties for installation of monitoring wells. As reported in a letter issued to EPA on June 29, 2000, the Group and ARCADIS are continuing with efforts to obtain access for installation of a monitoring well in an additional area (located to the northwest of the industrial site) requested by EPA.
- On June 30, 2000, ARCADIS and the Group's project coordinator were advised that Savannah Laboratories had incorrectly analyzed the groundwater samples collected with a bailer from wells located on the National Steel Corporation/Granite City Steel Division and Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis' properties. The analyses will be repeated by Savannah Laboratories using the correct protocol.

6. Modifications to Work Plans or Schedules Proposed to EPA or Approved by EPA:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

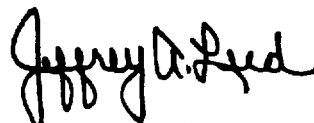
7. Community Relations Activities During Previous Month or to be Undertaken During Next Six-Week Period:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

Should you or your staff have questions or comments regarding this progress report, please contact this office at (610) 670-7310.

Very truly yours,

LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.



Jeffrey A. Leed
Project Coordinator

cc: Ms. Sandra Bron - Illinois EPA (by first class mail)
Mr. Tim Healy - ENTACT, Inc. (by first class mail)
Mr. Jack Kratzmeyer - ARCADIS Geraghty & Miller (by first class mail)
Technical Committee, NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group (by first class mail)